



# Heraeus Fused Silica Opaque Optical Diffuser Material: HOD500

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- Heraeus Quarzglas
- Definition: Diffuser
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- Heraeus Optical Diffuser: HOD-500
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# Custom Tailored Products

## Optics for Fusion lasers:

- NIF, CEA, LLE Omega

## Quartz glass for Space Applications

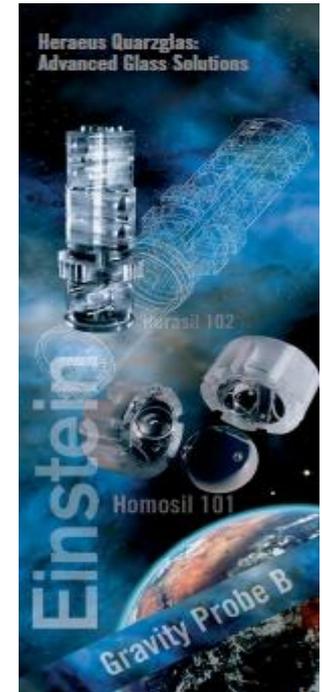
- Laser Ranging, Einstein Gravity Probe B, Vista

## Optics for Science

- VIRGO & LIGO & GEO600

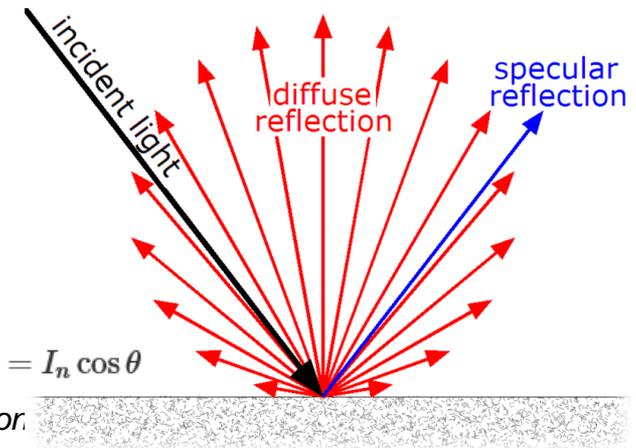
## Defense

- Air Borne Laser
- UAV / Directed Energy



## Definition: Diffuser

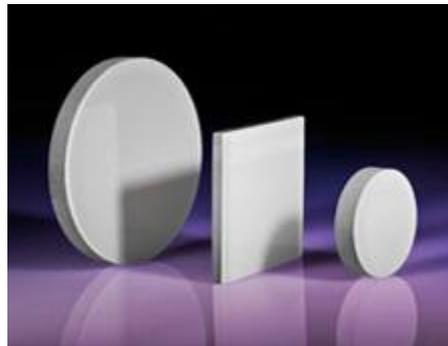
- Optical diffusers are used for uniform dispersion of light in a variety of industrial applications.
- In optics, a diffuser is any device that diffuses, spreads out or scatters light in some manner, to give soft light.
  - Light reflects and diffused from a white surface
  - translucent materials as compact optical diffusers
- Perfect diffuser:
  - Lambertian reflectance (its brightness appears the same from any angle of view)



Fairchild, Mark D.: *Color Appearance Models*. John Wiley & Sons. p. 6:  $I_{\theta} = I_n \cos \theta$   
Juds, Scott M.: *Photoelectric sensors and controls: selection and application*.

## Current Products

- Ground or Chemically treated Glass
- Flashed Opal glass surfaces
- PTFE plastic (Polytetrafluoroethylene)
- OM-100 from Heraeus, designed for Semi-Conductor applications



## Disadvantages

### ■ Ground, Chemically or Flashed Glass)

- Almost Lambertian diffuser
- Depending on base material different working wavelength ranges

### ■ PTFE plastic (Polytetrafluoroethylene)

- for  $>400$  °C loss of stability
- Change of reflection behavior over time  
→ recalibration
  - Reflectivity loss below 250nm
  - Potential UV degradation
  - Low density of 1.25 – 1.5 g/cm<sup>3</sup> leads to bad mechanical stability

- porous properties

### ■ Opaque natural quartz, e.g. OM-100 from Heraeus

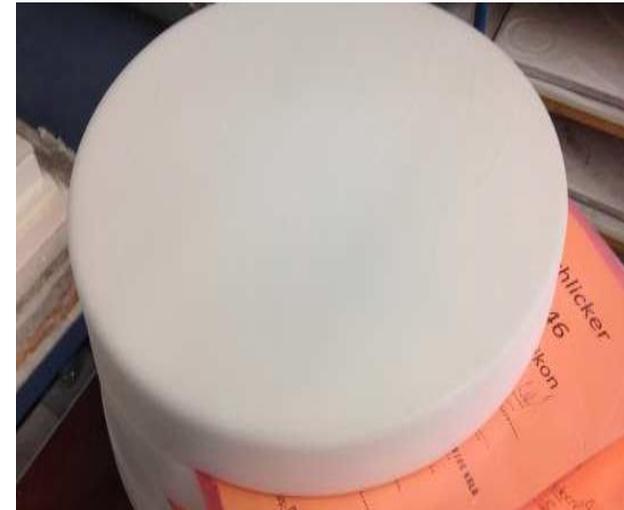
- Improvement for a lot of parameters, but still:
  - Marbel effect → no homogeneous density
  - Transmission and reflection loss in UV due to metallic impurities

## HOD Motivation

- Product improvement over OM-100
- Maximum reflectivity/transmission from UV, VIS to NIR
- Longterm stable behavior
- Machineable
- Homogenous density distribution
- Low level of metallic impurities
- Low fluorescence
- Lambertian behavior

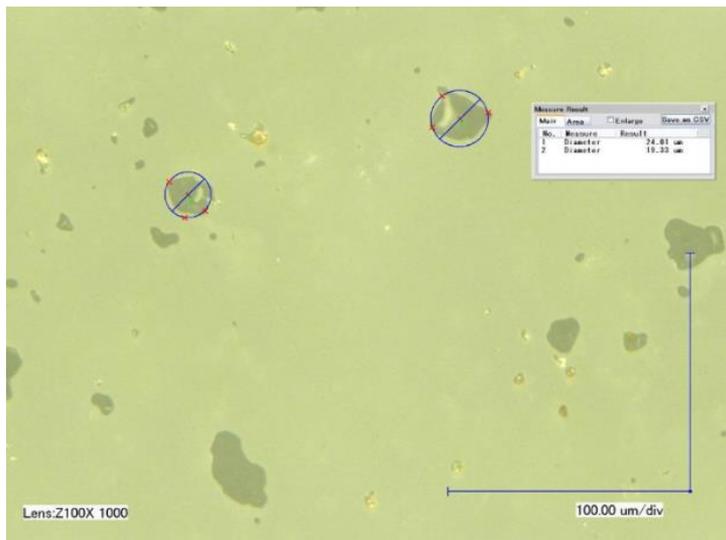
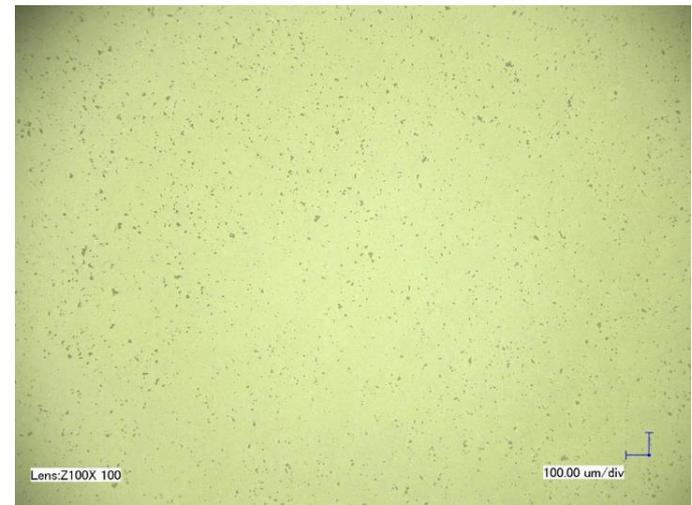
## About HOD

- Heraeus Optical Diffusers are uniform opaque (white) sintered fused silica and fused quartz materials molded into shape
- The material is produced by molding & high-temperature sintering of high purity fused silica or fused quartz powder into a bulk material with uniform micro-bubbles. The starting powders and controlled bubble content produce the desired optical characteristics
- This results in bulk material & components that produce the optimized performance
- Currently Heraeus Optical Diffuser materials & components are available in two grades
  - HOD -300: fused quartz
  - HOD-500 : fused silica (enhanced UV, purity)



## Heraeus Optical Diffuser – HOD-500

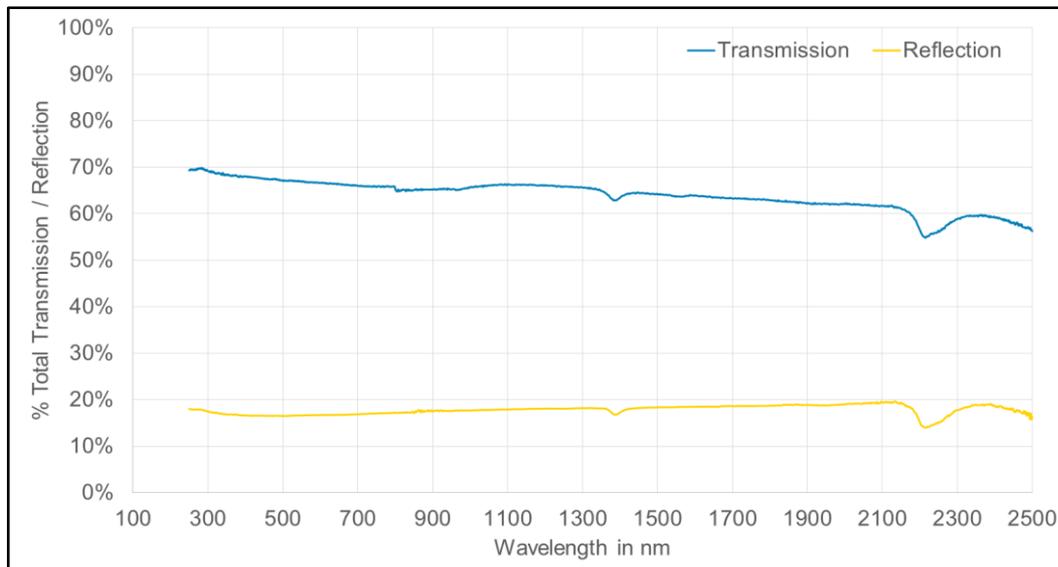
- Base material: fused silica
- Scattering centers: bubbles  $\text{Ø} < 25\mu\text{m}$ 
  - Keyence light microscopy, 100x and 1000x magnification



Can be used in **reflective** and **transmissive** mode  
 → performance depends on thickness

## Heraeus Optical Diffuser – HOD-500

- Density: 2.155 g/cm<sup>3</sup> ± 0,25%
- Typical metallic impurities: < 0,36 ppm
- OH content: ~455 ppm ± 5%
- Typical transmission / reflection for a 5mm thick fire polished diffuser\*:



\*depends on thickness, surface finish and measurement setup

Element	Typical metallic impurities in ppb
Li	<10
Na	34
K	24
Mg	15
Ca	120
Fe	29
Cu	<8
Cr	<8
Mn	<8
Ti	<10
Al	50
Zr	<10
Ni	<8
Mo	<10
W	<10
C	<10

## Applications

### ■ Radiation hard regime

- Diffuser in space bound spectroscopy, e.g. satellites for solar or atmospheric measurement/analysis

### ■ Diffuser application in IR and UV

- Spectroscopy

### ■ Laser Calibration standards

- Spectroscopy

### ■ Uniform radiation cavity

- Laser cavities
- Integrating sphere

### ■ Attenuator / filter

- Beam dump

## Summary

- Heraeus Optical Diffuser HOD-500
- Customer tailored diffuser product initially developed for space applications
- opaque fused silica
  - Small enclosed air bubbles
  - Maximum reflectivity/transmissivity from UV to NIR
  - Closed porous
  - Strong and machinable
  - Long term stability
  - Homogenous density
  - Low metallic impurities and low fluorescence
  - Lambertian behaviour
- A product for more than just space !!!!

